

REMARKS

This Amendment is being filed in response to the Final Office Action mailed on April 15, 2009, which has been reviewed and carefully considered. Entry of the present amendment and allowance of the present application in view of the amendments made above and the remarks to follow are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-2, 4-12, 14, 16-19, 21-22 and 23-32 remain in this application, where claims 3 and 13 had been currently canceled. Claims 1-2, 7, 11-12, 14, 16, 19, 21-22, 24-25, 26-27, 28-29 and 31 are independent.

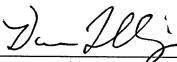
In the Final Office Action, the Examiner indicated that claims 1-2, 4-12, 16-18, 21, 32 and 34 are allowed, and that claims 15, 20 and 23 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Applicant gratefully acknowledges the indication that claims 1-2, 4-12, 16-18, 21, 32 and 34 are allowed, and that claims 15, 20 and 23 contain patentable subject matter. By means of the present amendment, claims 15, 20 and 23 have been canceled and their features included in independent claims 14, 19 and 22,

respectively. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that independent claims 14, 19 and 22 be allowed.

In addition, Applicant denies any statement, position or averment of the Examiner that is not specifically addressed by the foregoing argument and response. Any rejections and/or points of argument not addressed would appear to be moot in view of the presented remarks. However, the Applicant reserves the right to submit further arguments in support of the above stated position, should that become necessary. No arguments are waived and none of the Examiner's statements are conceded.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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